

Marbled Salamander

Marbled Salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*) - Pl.21

Identification: 3 1/2" - 5". This is a short and stocky salamander. The Marbled Salamander has white or gray crossbands on a dull black body. Band width varies, and bands may merge, form circles on the back, or have gaps. The male has white bands; the female has gray bands. Bands generally do not reach the black underside. Newly transformed young have brown to black ground color, with light speckles.

Where to find them: This salamander occurs in habitats ranging from moist woodlands to dry, wooded hillsides and is best found by looking under debris such as logs or rocks. During the breeding season, look in depressions that will become vernal pools.

When to find them: Breeds in autumn; the female deposits her eggs in the dry depressions of vernal pools. The depressions then fill with water the following spring and submerge the eggs..

Range: Entire state.

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(*Ambystoma opacum*) - text pg. 30

Key Features

- Robust salamander with light crossbands on a dull black body.
- Black belly.



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Excerpt from: "Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of New Jersey"
Order the complete guide at - <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/products.htm>